

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, ETRD, MX

SUBJECT: MEXICAN IMPORT DUTY ON BOOKS

REF: MEXICO 354

1. ON BASIS OF NEW IMPORT DUTY PUBLISHED IN DIARIO OFICIAL OF DECEMBER 27, 1974, IT IS APPARENT THAT A 5 PERCENT DUTY APPLIES TO ALL BOOKS, SPANISH AND ENGLISH-LANGUAGE (EXCEPT BOOKS COMING FROM OR ORIGINATING IN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF LAFTA), IMPORTED INTO MEXICO.

2. AS EMBASSY AWARE, U.S. PUBLISHING INDUSTRY AND USG VERY CONCERNED ABOUT IMPOSITION OF THIS IMPORT DUTY ON ENGLISH-LANGUAGE BOOKS.

3) DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ADVISED BY U.S. PUBLISHERS THAT AT PRESENT POSTAL SHIPMENTS OF BOOKS ARE GOING THROUGH WITHOUT PAYMENT OF IMPORT DUTY, BUT BOOK SHIPMENTS VIA OCEAN FREIGHT REQUIRE PAYMENT OF IMPORT DUTY.

4) PARA 4 OF REFTEL INDICATED THAT BOOKS AND PERIODICALS

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IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE WOULD CONTINUE TO ENTER MEXICO

WITHOUT PAYMENT OF DUTIES AND WITHOUT QUOTA RESTRICTIONS.
FURTHER, EMBASSY INDICATED MATTER WOULD BE FOLLOWED AND
STATUS WOULD BE REPORTED AT A LATER DATE.

5) ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY
INVESTIGATE AND REPORT WITHOUT AROUSING INTEREST AND CON-
CERN OF GOM OFFICIALS WHETHER IMPORT DUTY BEING ENFORCED
AND MANNER OF ENFORCEMENT. (FYI ONLY: US PUBLISHERS ARE
CONCERNED THAT ANY DIRECT INQUIRIES ON THE QUESTION MAY BE
COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. END FYI) KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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